

SENATE BILL 1689

By Massey

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 44,
Chapter 17, relative to the destruction of dogs.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 44-17-120(a), is amended by deleting that subsection in its entirety and substituting instead the following:

(a) Any dog that attacks a human and causes death or serious bodily injury may be destroyed upon the order of the judge of the general sessions court of the county wherein the attack occurred. Such orders shall be granted on the petition of the district attorney general for the county. The petition shall name the owner of the dog, and the owner shall be given notice via certified mail or personal service, that if the owner does not appear before the court within five (5) days of the receipt thereof and show cause why the dog should not be destroyed, then the order shall issue and the dog shall be destroyed.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2014, the public welfare requiring it.